[6th September 1928

Second tour (*August* 1928)—

Coimbatore.—Inspection of the Agricultural College, Veterinary Hospital, Pallapalaiyam Sugarcane Crushing Society, Co-operative Urban Bank, St. Joseph's Industrial School and Industrial School at Peelamedu.

Visited the Young Men's Christian Association Rural Reconstruction centre at Ramanathapuram.

Avanashi.—Inspection of cotton seed societies.

Perumanallur.—Opened the Co-operative Supervising Union.

Tiruppur.—Visited the Tiruppur Co-operative Trading Society.

Kambliampatti.—Inspected the Land Mortgage Bank.

Perundurai.—Inspected the colony of the depressed classes.

Erode.—Inspection of Co-operative Urban Bank.

(*d*) No.

(*e*) No.

(*f*) The question does not arise.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to the answer to clause (*c*), I find the words 'inspection' and 'visiting' used again and again. I want to know the exact nature of the official work done, whether any representations were inquired into and so on? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" Inspections are usually made whenever there are important references pending with regard to those institutions. Visits to institutions are generally made in the course of the tours to get acquainted with their working."

11-15 a.m. Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With regard to the inspection of the Madura Technical Institute, may I know from the hon. the Minister what were the references made on which he inspected the Institute ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" I wanted to be satisfied whether the institute was working at a loss or not."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With regard to the Coimbatore Agricultural College, may I know what were the references on which he inspected that College ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" I wanted to have an idea of its working."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I take it then that there was no official work done, apart from shaking hands with the members of the staff ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" Not only shook hands, but also made a detailed study of the institution."

Excise

Action taken on the resolution regarding prohibition.

* 176 *Q.*—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) what steps have been taken to carry out the resolution of this Council on the question of prohibition in twenty years ;

(b) what the number of—

(i) toddy shops,

(ii) arrack shops,

(iii) foreign liquor shops, was in the Kurnool district for the year 1927–28;

(c) what their number is at present; and

(d) what the total number of gallons sold monthly at these shops was during 1927–28 as compared with the monthly sales from January to the end of June 1928?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 370.

(b) (i) 419 } including the shops in the Banganapalle State.
(ii) 185 }

(iii) Nil.

(c) As the toddy lease runs up to the end of September, the Government presume that the present number of toddy shops is 419. The present number of arrack shops is 184. No foreign liquor taverns have been opened in the district for the lease of 1928–29.

(d) No accounts are maintained to show the quantity of toddy sold in each shop. The number of trees marked for the shops for each month and the monthly sales of arrack in the shops are as shown below:—

	Toddy—Number of trees marked.		Arrack shop—Consumption (proof gallons).	
	1927	1928	1927	1928
January	16,271	17,528	3,333	4,779
February	18,099	19,380	3,175	4,912
March	20,835	13,672	3,181	4,926
April	6,544	12,584	3,397	4,934
May	10,087	11,147	3,641	6,675
June	13,773	15,646	3,786	7,788

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"May I know from the hon. the Minister for Excise, in view of the fact that the number of trees marked and the consumption in proof gallons in arrack shops have both increased, what further action he proposes to take to mitigate the drink evil in the district of Kurnool?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"I believe there is an excise advisory committee to make recommendations and the officers of the department will also go into the question and make recommendations for mitigating drink."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"May I know if the hon. the Minister will undertake to get such recommendations made?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"The recommendations are usually made."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know what the composition of the advisory committee is?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR.—"Some members of municipalities and some elected by renters, some nominated and others."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Has it got an elected majority?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"That is my impression."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—"May I know whether a toddy vendor or an arrack seller is on that board?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—"I believe there is a representative of that class on the board."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—"May I know whether the hon. the Minister is getting any periodical reports from what he calls the Excise Advisory Committee of that district?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—"The Excise Advisory Committee do not correspond with the Government; their proceedings go to the Collector who forwards them to the Excise Commissioner."

Action taken on the recommendations of the Excise Advisory Committees.

*177 Q.—Mr. A. Parasurama Rao: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the extent to which the recommendations of the Excise Advisory Committees have been given effect to;

(b) whether any reports are received from the Collectors regarding the recommendations of such advisory committees and how many of them have been given effect to; and

(c) whether any of such committees recommended—

(1) the closure of any toddy or arrack shop;

(2) the introduction of rationing system;

(3) the removal of those shops from localities where it is objectionable to have them; and what action has been taken thereon?

A.—(a) The hon. Member will find the information required in Appendix B of the Annual Excise Administration Report.

(b) An annual report is received from the Commissioner of Excise but not from Collectors.

(c) (1) Yes.

(2) Not so far as Government are aware.

(3) Yes. The action taken is detailed in the Administration Reports.

Education of the people on the evils of drink.

*178 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state the proposals under the consideration of the Government for the education of the people on the evils of drink and the anti-drink propaganda?

A.—The Excise Advisory Committee has made the following proposals :—

(1) that a definite sum of money should be earmarked for expenditure each year for propaganda work to discourage the drink habit;

(2) that the propaganda work, which is now being done by private societies, should be subsidized;

(3) that an organization on the lines of the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society should be formed for propaganda work; and

(4) that attempts should be made, if possible, to carry out propaganda work through the agency of village panchayats, co-operative societies, etc.